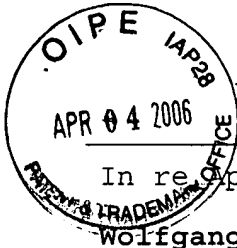


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ITW/128



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Wolfgang Nichoff

Application No. 10/623,204

Filed: July 18, 2003

Art Unit: 2646

Examiner: Brian Ensey

Atty. Docket No.: 500593.20058

Customer No.: 026418

MICROPHONE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Enclosed is Form PTO-1449 which lists the references being cited along with a copy of each of the references.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any document referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being

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☒ Deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on April 4, 2006 and is addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313.

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The references may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are being made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider each of the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☒ Enclosed is PTO Form 1449.
2. ☒ Items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language.

- ☒ For each of the following items, an English-language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is attached:

DE 19651463  
EP 0062164

- ☐ For each of the following items, a concise explanation of that item is incorporated in page 1 of the specification of the above-identified application:
- ☐ For each of the following items, a corresponding U.S. or other English-language patent is enclosed. Please consider the U.S. or other English-language patents in accordance with the procedure set forth in MPEP § 609:

3. ☐ Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in Application Serial No. [Ser. No.], filed [Date], of which the present application relies upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

4. ☐ Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

- ☐ With the application;
- ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application;

and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

5. ☒ **Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c).**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the first mailing date of either

☒ A final action under § 1.113; or

☐ A notice of allowance under § 1.311.

☒ A fee is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and the fee is paid below; or

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e), and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

6. ☐ **Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d).**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either

☐ A final action under § 1.113; or

☐ A notice of allowance under § 1.311,

whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by

a. One of the certifications pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e), which is set forth below;

b. The attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and

c. The petition fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i)(1), which is paid below.

7. **Certification Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e).**

☐ The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

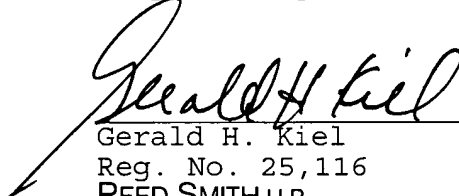
☐ The undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three

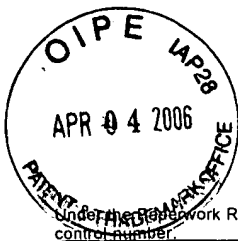
months prior to the filing of this Information  
Disclosure Statement.

8. Fee Payment Being Made.

- ☒ Enclosed
- ☒ \$180.00 fee for submission under 37 CFR §  
1.97(c).
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$[Amount] to cover the fee  
payment is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1529. A  
duplicate copy of this communication is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment  
of any additional fees associated with this  
Information Disclosure Statement or credit any  
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1529. A  
duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald H. Kiel  
Reg. No. 25,116  
REED SMITH LLP  
599 Lexington Avenue  
29<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
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Attorney for Applicant



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/623,204		
		Filing Date	July 18, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Wolfgang Nichoff		
		Art Unit	2646		
		Examiner Name	Brian Ensey		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	500593.20058

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code 3 - Number 4 - Kind Code 5 (if known)				
		EP 00 62 164	10/13/1982	Heinrich Peiker		
		EP 22 06 996	08/23/1973	Sennheiser Electronic KG		
		EP 196 51 463	04/02/1998	Schulze, Manfred, Dipl.-ing.		
			</			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA 22313 DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313.